

# NEWS RELEASE

# THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 10, 1997

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## Libertarians demand: Hunt down & prosecute politicians who OK'd Tuskegee experiments

WASHINGTON, DC — **An apology isn't enough.** The politicians and government employees responsible for the Tuskegee syphilis experiments should be prosecuted by a Nuremberg-style tribunal, the Libertarian Party demanded today.

"It's outrageous that President Clinton thinks he can pay off four decades of suffering with an apology and a check," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national chairman. "The politicians who authorized this experiment and the government employees who administered it should be hunted down, prosecuted, and punished for their crimes against humanity."

Clinton announced this week that he would issue a formal White House apology to the survivors of the infamous Tuskegee syphilis experiments — 400 impoverished African Americans who were left untreated for 40 years as part of a secret government study.

**When publicly exposed in 1972, the experiment was finally terminated, and the federal government paid \$10 million to the survivors.**

"This disgraceful experiment ended just 25 years ago," said Dasbach. "This means the cold-blooded scientists who medically *tortured* the Tuskegee victims may still be employed by the government. The politicians who voted to fund this barbarous project may still be in office — and getting paychecks from taxpayers.

"Why is there no effort being made to track down and punish the guilty bureaucrats and politicians? Why is there no public outcry? Why does no one seem to care that the federal government has routinely treated its citizens like laboratory rats?" he asked.

"In fact, for five decades, the federal government has waged a war against its own citizens — a war in the form of gruesome, secret medical experiments," he said. "Americans have not only been left to silently suffer from syphilis, but have also been injected with Plutonium 239, blistered with mustard gas, dosed with LSD, and sprayed with bacteria. And the victims of these experiments were usually the most vulnerable members of society: Poor African Americans, hospital patients — and even mentally disabled children."

According to a Congressional subcommittee hearing on September 28, 1994, up to 500,000 Americans were endangered by secret defense-related tests between 1940 and 1974 — including covert experiments with radioactive materials, mustard gas, LSD, and biological agents.

"It's time for the American people to cry out for justice," said Dasbach. "It's time for the guilty politicians and bureaucrats to be punished for these war crimes."

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